

Canadian Update on MRA Implementation



Industry Canada <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca>
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Canada 

OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Steps we have taken
- Description of designating procedures
- Experience gained
- Statistics



INTRODUCTION

- Canada is currently participating in both Phases of the MRA
- The regulatory authority is Industry Canada
- The Canadian Accreditation authority is the Standards Council of Canada
- The MRA covers Terminal Equipment, Radio Equipment and EMC



STEPS WE HAVE TAKEN

- Obtained the necessary regulatory authority
 - Radio and Telecom Regulations were amended in 2001 to allow the use of private conformity assessment bodies
- Developed procedures for:
 - Designation and recognition of CABs
 - Monitoring and enforcement
- Training for CABs



Phase II of the MRA

- Allows for mutual recognition of Conformity Assessment Bodies (Certification Bodies) and mutual acceptance of equipment certificates
- Covers Radio Standards Specifications (RSS) and Broadcasting Equipment Technical Standards (BETS) in the Category I Equipment list.



Phase II PROCEDURES

- REC-CB: *Procedure for the Recognition of Foreign Certification Bodies by Industry Canada*
- CB-02: *Recognition Criteria and Administrative & Operational Requirements applicable to Certification Bodies*
- CB-03: *Requirements for the Certification of Radio Equipment to Industry Canada's Specifications*



PROCEDURE TO REQUEST INDUSTRY CANADA RECOGNITION (REC-CB)

The Designating Authority submits to IC:

- a covering letter
- a signed application (Appendix I of REC-CB)
- a copy of the certificate of accreditation to ISO/IEC Guide 65
- a copy of the certificate of accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025
- a copy of certification procedures (based on CB-03)
- a copy of auditing procedures



Appendix I



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Application for Recognition of a Foreign Certification Body by Industry Canada

Name of MRA:	
Designating Authority Identification	
Name of the Designating Authority:	
Address:	
Contact Name:	Telephone:
Address (If different from above):	E-mail Address:
Facsimile:	
Certification Body Identification	
Name of Certification Body (CB):	CB Identifier:
Address:	
Web site:	
Contact Name:	Telephone:
Address (If different from above):	E-mail Address:
Facsimile:	
Open Area Test Site's Address and Industry Canada Assigned Number (If Applicable):	
Accreditation Information	
Name of Accreditation Organization:	
Address:	
Web site:	
ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation	ISO/IEC Guide 65 Accreditation
or equivalent, specify: _____	or equivalent, specify: _____
Date of Issue of Accreditation:	Date of Issue of Accreditation:
Date of Expiry of Accreditation:	Date of Expiry of Accreditation:
Signature of Designating Authority:	
Date:	

REC-CB Jan 2002



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Upon receipt of a designation, Industry Canada:

- Assesses the information provided by the Designating Authority
- Issues a letter of recognition to the Designating Authority
- Adds the new CB to the list of recognized CBs:
http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/h_tt00039e.html

Separate designations are required for Phase I and Phase II



CB-02: General Requirements

The CB shall:

- Have at least one permanent location in MRA partner territory
- Develop certification procedure (as per CB-03)
- Develop auditing procedures
- Satisfy requirements of Assessment Guidance (Appendix 1 of CB-02)



CB-02: Accreditation Requirements

The CB shall be accredited in accordance with *ISO/IEC 65: 1996* or equivalent to at least one of the two following scopes:

- (a) Radio – All Radio Standards Specifications (RSS) in the Category I Equipment Standards List;
- (b) Broadcasting – All Broadcasting Equipment Technical Standards (BETS) in the Category I Equipment Standards List



CB-02: Technical Competence Requirement

Maintain current technical competence, knowledge and expertise by:

- (a) having in-house testing laboratory accredited in accordance with *ISO/IEC 17025: 1999*, or equivalent to the entire scope of accreditation chosen; or
- (b) entering into contractual arrangements with recognized testing laboratories



CB-02: Administrative and Operational Requirements

- Update scope of recognition within one year of a new RSS/BETS publication
- Publish and maintain certification procedures
- Maintain a list of products certified and certification files for ten years
- Have an OATS filed with IC or have arrangements with recognized testing laboratory that has OATS filed with the IC
- Provide to IC information related to a certification application upon request
- Inform certificate holders of IC's requirements for labeling certified equipment
- Address complaints and report to the Department within 30 days of the receipt of a complaint



CB-02: Auditing Requirements

- Perform audit testing on 2 percent of the total number of products certified in a year
- Provide reports of audit and surveillance activities within 30 days



CB-02: Certificate information

- Name and address of the certificate holder
- Model identification and equipment category for the certified equipment
- Name and issue number of the Department's standard and specification under which the subject equipment was tested and certified
- Contact information of the testing laboratory which performed the testing
- IC assigned company number (CN), if available, of the testing lab that performed the testing
- Certification number
- Frequency range, emission designation, RF output rating, and antenna information
- An authorized signature, with the title of the signing officer and the date of issue of the certificate.



CB-02: A CB shall not

- Assign Company Numbers
- Waive any applicable requirements
- Certify equipment for which there are no requirements promulgated by IC
- Subcontract certification decisions
- Advertise outside scope of recognition



LISTING OF CERTIFICATIONS

- Certifications details will be listed on the Radio Equipment List (REL) by Industry Canada
- Listing fee applies before equipment added to the REL
- Equipment is not considered certified if not properly labeled and listed in the REL



MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT

Industry Canada has created a *National Equipment Compliance and Enforcement Center (NECEC)* to:

- Promote equipment compliance
 - Organizes information sessions and compliance campaigns
- Perform market surveillance of radio and terminal equipment at national level
 - Tracks non-compliance complaints;
 - Performs analysis of trends and risk areas
- Coordinate import monitoring
 - Coordinates with the Canada Border Services Agency (Customs) at the national level
 - Coordinates national equipment compliance enforcement with regional inspectors



EXPERIENCE GAINED

- Challenges with implementation
 - Changes in regulations: unforeseen delays
 - First designation and recognition: slow, required cooperation from our partners
- Procedures need fine-tuning as we gain experience
- There is a need to keep track of MRA transactions
- The MRA process is working and the benefits are real
- It is well worth it



STATISTICS

Canadian Testing Laboratories Recognized by MRA Partners (Phase I)

MRA Partner	Number of Canadian Labs Recognized
Australia	4
Chinese Taipei	7
Korea	5
Singapore	4
USA	8



Testing Laboratories Recognized by Industry Canada (Phase I)

MRA Partner	Number of Labs Recognized by IC
USA	34
European Union	9
Chinese Taipei	5
Korea	4
Hong Kong	1
Singapore	1

Canada	8
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Certification Bodies recognized by Industry Canada (Phase II)

MRA Partner	Number of CBs Recognized by IC
USA	12
European Union	4
Canada	1

71% of radio certificates are issued by recognized CBs



USEFUL LINKS

- MRAs in which Canada participates: <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/MRA>
- Procedures for Conformity Assessment Bodies:
http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf06138e.html
- List of Conformity Assessment Bodies:
http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/h_tt00039e.html
- MRA discussion Forum: <http://ssf.scc.ca/forums/tapac/dispatch.cgi>
- Radio Equipment List (REL): http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/h_tt00020e.html
- Terminal Equipment List (TEL):
http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/h_tt00050e.html
- E-Filing: http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inceb-bhst.nsf/en/h_tt00052e.html

